

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

To synthesize an aperture mask having unnoticeable steps with a taken fundus image. In an image processing apparatus, taken fundus image data is inputted and then analyzed. After that, an aperture mask is selected and inputted as aperture mask data, and an image size of the fundus image compared with an image size of the aperture mask. The image size of the aperture mask is adjusted to the image size of the fundus image and then the fundus image data and the aperture mask data are developed in raster format to image memories. The image size of the fundus image is adjusted to the image size of the aperture mask based on the comparison result and a coefficient for low pass filtering process is determined according to the image size of the fundus image. After that, the degree of clearness of corresponding fundus image data is calculated based on each pixel value of the aperture mask data on which the low pass filtering process has been performed and the calculation result is outputted to the image memory. After the process is performed for all the pixels, a fundus area in the fundus image is moved to predetermined coordinates. A resultant fundus image is outputted as final image data to a storage device and a display memory and then a series of processes are completed.